



FY 2001 Supplemental Assistance to the National Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots

Notice of proposal deadline and guidelines.

SUMMARY: The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) began to accept proposals for supplemental assistance for the National Brownfields Assessment Pilots on November 16, 2000. Assessment pilots awarded on or before September 30, 1999, may apply for up to \$150,000 for continuance and expansion of their brownfields assessment efforts. This supplemental funding will be awarded on a competitive basis. Recipients of supplemental assessment pilot funding in FY2000 and Showcase Community funding in FY2001 are not eligible to apply.

In fiscal year 2001, an additional \$50,000 may be awarded to an applicant to assess the contamination of a brownfields site(s) that is or will be used for greenspace purposes. Greenspace purposes may include, but are not limited to, parks, playgrounds, trails, gardens, habitat restoration, open space, and/or greenspace preservation.

EPA expects to select up to 10 National brownfields assessment pilots to receive supplemental assistance by April 2001. **The deadline for proposals for the 2001 supplemental assistance is January 8, 2001.** Proposals must be post-marked or sent to EPA via registered or tracked mail by the stated deadline.

The supplemental assistance for the National brownfields assessment pilots will be administered on a competitive basis. To ensure a fair selection process, evaluation panels consisting of EPA Regional and Headquarters staff will assess how well the proposals meet the selection criteria outlined in the application booklet *The Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative: Proposal Guidelines for Supplemental Assistance for the Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots* (October 2000). Applicants are encouraged to contact and, if possible, meet with EPA Regional Brownfields Coordinators.

DATES: All proposals must be post-marked or sent to EPA via registered or tracked mail by January 8, 2001.

ADDRESSES: The proposal guidelines can be obtained by calling the Superfund Hotline at the following numbers:
Washington, DC Metro Area at 703-412-9810, Outside
Washington, DC Metro at 1-800-424-9346, TDD for the Hearing
Impaired at 1-800-553-7672.

Copies of the guidelines are also available via the Internet:
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm#supp>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Superfund Hotline, 800-424-9346.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As a part of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative, the Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots are designed to empower States, communities, tribes, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, and safely cleanup brownfields to promote their sustainable reuse. EPA has awarded cooperative agreements to States, cities, towns, counties and Tribes for demonstration pilots that test brownfields assessment models and facilitate coordinated public and private efforts at the Federal, State, tribal and local levels. To date, the Agency has funded 362 Brownfields Assessment Pilots.

In fiscal year 2001, EPA has determined that brownfields assessment pilots awarded on or before September 30, 1999, may apply for up to \$150,000 for continuance and expansion of their brownfields assessment efforts. Recipients of supplemental assessment pilot funding in FY2000 and Showcase Community funding in FY2001 are not eligible to apply. These pilots focus on EPA's primary mission—protecting human health and the environment. They are also an essential piece of the nation's overall community revitalization efforts. EPA works closely with other federal agencies

through the Interagency Working Group on Brownfields, and builds relationships with other stakeholders on the national and local levels to develop coordinated approaches for community revitalization.

Supplemental funding for the brownfields assessment pilots is authorized under Section 104(d)(1) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, (CERCLA or Superfund), 42 U.S.C. 9604(d)(1). States (including U.S. Territories), political subdivisions (including cities, towns, counties), and federally recognized Indian Tribes which received a brownfields assessment pilot grant on or before September 30, 1999, are eligible to apply. EPA welcomes and encourages brownfields projects by coalitions of such entities, but only a single eligible entity may receive a cooperative agreement. Cooperative agreement funds will be awarded only to a state, a political subdivision of a state, or a federally recognized Indian tribe.

Through a brownfields cooperative agreement, EPA provides funds to an eligible state, political subdivision, or Indian Tribe to undertake activities authorized under CERCLA section 104. Use of these supplemental assistance pilot funds must be in accordance with CERCLA, and all CERCLA restrictions on use of funds also apply to the assessment pilots.

The evaluation panels will review the proposals carefully and assess each response based on how well it addresses the selection criteria, briefly outlined below:

Part I (Required)

1. Established Brownfields Program
2. Accomplishments under Existing Brownfields Assessment Pilot
3. Demonstrated Ability to Administer Existing Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot
4. Work to be Performed

Part II (Optional)

5. Greenspace

--Authority and Context

--Community Involvement

--Site Identification, Site Assessment Plan, Flow of Ownership, and Reuse Planning

For further information about the National Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots, go to:

<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/pilot.htm#assess>

For general information on the U.S. EPA's Brownfields Program, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>